



Ground-Breaking Ceremony for Claude Moore Recreation Center

The Ground-Breaking ceremony for the Claude Moore Recreation Center was held this past Saturday, January 29, at 10 AM. Many members of the County's Board of Supervisors, members of the Department of

gymnasium, climbing wall, fitness room, elevated walking track, community meeting rooms, and much more. The project should take 18-24 months to complete which could mean a Fall 2007 grand opening. If anyone is interested, there are renderings of the proposed recreation center on display at Claude Moore Park. Please stop by and take a look at the plans.



Parks, Recreation and Community Services Park Advisory Board, members of the design firm, and many other interested residents attended the event on a very chilly morning. Diane Ryburn, Acting Director of PRCS, was Master of Ceremonies and spoke eloquently about the benefits of the recreation center. Currently, the plans call for a leisure pool with slide, a 50-meter competitive pool, locker rooms,



Board of Supervisors' members, PRCS Park Advisory Board members, and many others partake in the ground-breaking ceremony on Saturday.

Plant-A-Memory Program "Greens-Up" County Parks

Recently, we revised the Plant-A-Memory program, and through great results with our advertising, many trees will be planted this spring at several county parks.

Plant-A-Memory is a unique countywide program that provides a living, growing memorial to your loved one or special event. By emphasizing trees native to the Piedmont region of Virginia, the program

supports on-going beautification of our county's parks. The trees selected for the program also benefit wildlife preservation efforts in Loudoun County.



During the recent holidays, the county received eight Plant-A-Memory applications; those trees will be planted this spring at Claude Moore Park, Franklin Park, and at Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve.

The price of a tree includes a 3" square plaque, mounting post, mulch, and tree maintenance. Trees are planted at the park of your choice. Two tree sizes are available and tree orders must be received by March 1 for an April planting or by October 1 for a November planting.

If you would like to preserve a memory by planting a tree, please contact Claude Moore Park at 703-444-1275 for more information.

Inside this issue:

Ground-Breaking Ceremony	1
Plant-A-Memory Program	1
Volunteer Spotlight	2
Upcoming Programs	2
Park Contact Information	2
Volunteer Opportunities	3
Visitor Center Interpretive Room & Photos	3



CLAUDE MOORE PARK

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We're on the web!

Try: www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Each month, Claude Moore Park would like to recognize a volunteer who donates much of his or her spare time for program assistance, special event help, or other projects as needed.

This month, we'd like to spotlight 16 yr. old volunteer **Nick Janzen**. Nick is from Ashburn and volunteers at the park's Visitor Center. Nick has been volunteering for 10 months and works closely with full-time staff. Nick volunteered 188 hours in 2004! He volunteers on Tuesday afternoons for approximately three-to-four hours; his duties vary from providing turtle care such as feeding, cleaning, exercising, to doing trail maintenance or helping at special events. Nick has been especially helpful this past fall and winter with our trail maintenance program; particularly, he's been assisting staff with trail blazing, tree pruning, and signage inventory and upgrades.

Nick is a home-school student and when he's not busy with his studies, he likes to road bike, hike, camp, and kayak. During his volunteer hours, he especially enjoys the trail work, learning about the history of Claude Moore Park, and identifying and watching the park's wildlife. The park staff appreciate the many hours Nick has provided to us; his help is invaluable to park programs.

If you would like to volunteer at Claude Moore Park, please contact us at 703-444-1275.



Upcoming special events or programs that you don't want to miss!

There's a lot going on this winter that we don't want you to miss! Check out some of these great special events or special programs and plan to attend!

For you history aficionados, Claude Moore Park is sponsoring another great opportunity for you to discover the layers of park history. Join us for the **Lanesville Open House!** This history program provides a tour of the Lanesville House, which served as an ordinary in the past. The house been owned by only two families since it was built in the late 1770s. This program runs 10-11:30 AM on Saturday, February 12 and is free (no pre-registration necessary).



The Lanesville Ordinary in full summer greenery.

Also coming your way is a fantastic event that's a one-of-its-kind. In 1755, General Edward Braddock sent troops along

"Braddock's Road" on their way to Fort Duquesne in what is now Pittsburgh; these troop movements were part of the beginning of the French and Indian War. This year commemorates the 250th anniversary of this war.

"Braddock's Road" is also known as Vestals Gap Road, and Claude Moore Park has the last remaining part of this road, 6/10ths to be exact. On Sat., April 2, the park will be sponsoring the **250th Commemoration of the French & Indian War Tent Encampment along Vestals Gap Road** from 9 AM-2 PM. This will be a living history event, and participants will learn about the 44th and 48th Regiments of Foot, the Virginia Companies, Daniel Boone, Charlotte

Brown, and much more. Please join us as we take a look back at an important part of history. All groups must pre-register, but the general public does not need to pre-register.

For more information, please contact Claude Moore Park at 703-444-1275.



Part of Waggoner's Company of the Virginia Regiment portray drilling maneuvers.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity in 2005, Claude Moore Park has the project for you!

First, Claude Moore Park has scheduled a Spring Trail/Park Clean-Up Day for Saturday, April 16 from 8 AM-12 PM. Volunteers and staff will do a major trash pick-up throughout the park, conduct some trail maintenance, and cultivate the park's gardens. This event will be one of four clean-ups required for the Adopt-A-Trail members, so we're hoping that each group will send a few representatives. Also, if any students are in need of school volunteer hours or if you or your group would like to volunteer, please join us. From 8-8:30 AM, we'll conduct a safety and equipment use orientation, and then we'll divide into

VOLUNTEER!

teams; each team will have a full-time park staff member to direct their work. Please join us; we need your help! To sign-up, please contact the park at 703-444-1275.

In 2004, Claude Moore Park was finally able to open the Lanesville House to the public. This was a long-awaited accomplishment as the historic house needed to be renovated. Now, we're ready to start recruiting volunteers to become docents for this historic property. A docent is a specially-trained volunteer who will provide tours and historical interpretation to

the public. We're looking for docents with a love of history to volunteer as a way to ensure that the house remains open to the public. Special training will be available, and becoming a docent does require some learning on the docent's part. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact us. We are gearing up for 2005 events and would love to have you as a part of our volunteer team!

Students can volunteer at the park by becoming part of the Summer Naturalist Intern program.

Teenagers, ages 13-18, who enjoy being outdoors are encouraged to apply for volunteer positions. Applications will be accepted until May 20. Interns will receive training in nature study, outdoor safety, stewardship, habitat restoration, sharing nature with children, park history, and park regulations. Call the park for your application!

You can also volunteer by joining the Friends of Claude Moore Park. This 501c3 volunteer group supports the park's events, staff, and programs through many avenues. This group has done fundraising, event staffing, and advocacy with local government. The next two Friends of Claude Moore Park meetings are February 2 and March 2 at 7 PM at the Visitor Center in the park. Please join us for a meeting to see what the group is all about!



Summer naturalist interns improved plant gardens during the summer of 2003.

Come learn in the Visitor Center Interpretive Room

New! Claude Moore Park has added monthly themes at the Visitor Center Interpretive Room.

Explore a different nature or history theme each month at the Visitor Center.

Displays will include photographs, hands-on activities, natural artifacts, featured books, puzzles, experiments and more.

February's theme is "Snow." Find out what snow is and how it's formed. Did you know that January, February, and



March are Virginia's snowiest months? Learn about the basics of snow plus some wild and fun facts from this new exhibit. Upcoming monthly themes include Tracks, Seeds, Frogs, and Fish.



Visitor Center Interpretive Room

Event Photos

Get ready for the park's 2005 events!



Photos from 2004 Eggstravaganza. This year's event is March 23, 2005!



Photos from 2003 Nature Discovery Day. This year's event is May 7, 2005!